

Doffing PPE: N95 Respirators

- Before leaving patient room and entering the PPE removal area, inspect and disinfect (with an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe) any visible contamination on the PPE.



- Before leaving patient room, disinfect outer glove with ABHR or an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe.

- Enter PPE removal area and engage trained observer.

- Visually inspect all PPE for contamination, cuts, or tears. Disinfect if necessary.



- Disinfect outer glove with ABHR or an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe.

- Remove apron, if used.

If necessary, repeat visual inspection of PPE without apron.



If necessary, disinfect gloves with ABHR or an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe.

- Remove boot covers.



- Disinfect outer gloves with ABHR or an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe.

- Remove outer gloves.

- Inspect inner gloves.



○ If visibly soiled, cut, or torn – disinfect gloves, remove gloves (and tape, if used), perform hand hygiene on bare hands, and don a new pair of clean gloves.



Disinfect inner gloves with ABHR or an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe.

Remove face shield



Disinfect inner gloves with ABHR or an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe.

Remove surgical hood.



Disinfect inner gloves with ABHR or an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe.

○ If taping was used between gown and inner gloves, remove tape carefully and gently.

Remove gown.



Disinfect inner gloves with ABHR or an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe.

Remove gloves.



Perform hand hygiene on bare hands with ABHR.

Don a new pair of gloves.

Remove N95 Respirator by tilting the head slight forwards, grasping first the bottom tie / strap, then the top tie / strap; without touching the front.



Disinfect gloves with ABHR or an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe.

Disinfect shoes, wiping down with an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe.



Disinfect gloves with ABHR or an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe.

Remove gloves.



Perform hand hygiene with ABHR.

Visually inspect surgical scrubs for contamination.

The healthcare worker can now move from the PPE removal area, wearing their washable (and disinfected) footwear and scrubs or disposable garments.

Immediately showering before changing into street clothes is recommended for healthcare workers who have performed high-risk patient care or who have spent periods of time in the patient's room.

Finally, the healthcare worker should meet with the infection preventionist or occupation safety and health coordinator or their designee on the unit to review the patient care activities performed to identify any concerns about care protocols and to record the healthcare worker's level of fatigue.